

REMARKS

The Office Action mailed February 26, 2009 has been carefully considered. Reconsideration in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Canceled Claims

Claims 1-2 and 18 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

Claim Objections

Claims 3-5 were objected to for various formalities which have now been addressed as necessary.

Subject Matter Indicated Allowed or Allowable

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the indication of allowability of claims 4-15, 19-20 and 24-27, subject to their re-writing in independent form. Claim 4 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 1 and intervening claim 2, is now allowable. Claim 5 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 1 and intervening claim 2, is now allowable. Claim 15 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 1 is now allowable. Claim 24 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 1 and intervening claim 3, is now allowable. Claim 25 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 1 and intervening claim 3, is now allowable. Claim 19 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 18 and is now allowable. Claim 20 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 18 and is now allowable.

Rejection(s) Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-3, 16-18, and 21-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Kamperman (U.S. pat. no. 5,991,400).

Claims 1-2 and 18 have been canceled and the rejection thereof is moot.

Claim 3 has been amended to depend from claim 4, which was indicated to be allowable. Claim 3 is therefore now allowable.

Claim 16 has been amended to include limitations similar to those in claim 4, which was indicated to be allowable. Accordingly, claim 16, and claim 17 dependent therefrom, are now allowable.

Claim 21 has been amended to include limitations similar to those in claim 4, which was indicated to be allowable. Accordingly, claim 21, and claims 22-23 dependent therefrom, are now allowable.

Conclusion


In view of the preceding discussion, Applicants respectfully urge that the claims of the present application define patentable subject matter and should be passed to allowance.

If the Examiner believes that a telephone call would help advance prosecution of the present invention, the Examiner is kindly invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number below.

Please charge any additional required fees, including those necessary to obtain extensions of time to render timely the filing of the instant Amendment and/or Reply to Office Action, or credit any overpayment not otherwise credited, to our deposit account no. 50-3557.

Respectfully submitted,
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